

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY
MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION
OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Held on Wednesday, 15 October 1997, immediately following the Closed Session,
in Room GM 407-1, SGW Campus

Attendance

Present: Mr. Reginald K. Groome, *Chairman*, Ms. Rebecca Aldworth, Dr. Tannis Arbuckle-Maag, Mr. Alain Benedetti, Dr. Michael Brian, Dr. William Byers, Mrs. Marianne Donaldson, Dr. Leonard Ellen, Dr. Terrill Fancott, Mr. Leo Goldfarb, Mr. George Hanna, Mr. Paul Ivanier, Dr. Lawrence Kryzanowski, Mr. Ronald Lawless, Dr. Frederick Lowy, *Rector and Vice-Chancellor*, Sister E. McIlwaine Ph.D., Mr. Brian Neysmith, Mr. Dino Nizzola, Mr. Benoit Pelland, Mrs. Miriam Roland, Dr. Elizabeth Saccá, Mr. Robert Sonin, Mrs. Lillian Vineberg, *Vice-Chairwoman*

Officers of the University: Prof. Marcel Danis, Mr. Charles Emond, Mr. Larry English, Me Bérengère Gaudet, Dr. Jack Lightstone

Observer: Me Pierre Frégeau

Absent: Dr. Francesco Bellini, Mr. Ronald Corey, Mr. David Hinton, Mr. Peter Howlett, Mr. George Lengvari, Mrs. Hazel Mah, Mr. Donald W. McNaughton, Mr. Jacques Ménard, *Vice-Chairman*, Mr. Eric Molson, *Chancellor*, Ms. Roksana Nazneen, Ms. Susan O'Connell, Mr. Richard Renaud, Mr. Humberto Santos, Mr. Robert Simioni, Mr. Brian Steck, Mr. Jonathan Wener, Mrs. Susan Woods

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED AND ATTACHED TO THESE MINUTES

BG-97-8-D57	Proposed membership of Standing Committees
BG-97-8-D58	Draft Audited Financial Statements 1996-1997
BG-97-8-D59	Summary of the <i>Rapport financier annuel</i> 1996-1997
BG-97-8-D60	<i>État du traitement</i> 1996-1997
BG-97-8-D61	Letter from Dean Anvari regarding increase of tuition fees for international students in the Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor of Administration programs

1. Call to Order

The Open Session was called to order at 8:10 a.m.

1.1 Chairman's remarks

The Chairman waived his remarks.

1.2 Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda was approved as submitted.

1.3 Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session of the previous meeting (17 September 1997)

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Lawless, Neysmith), it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R97-58 *THAT the Minutes of the Open Session of the previous regular meeting of the Board held on 17 September 1997, be approved.*

2. Business arising from the Minutes

2.1 Election of the membership of Standing Committees of the Board

Mrs. Vineberg read the motion and asked Governors to note that the students had requested that Mr. Sonin replace Ms. Aldworth on the Collective Bargaining Committee. There was no objection.

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Vineberg, Lowy), it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R97-59 *THAT the membership of the Standing Committees of the Board of Governors set out in Document BG-97-8-D57 be approved as modified.*

2.2 Proposed space swap involving the CSU and the Music Department

The Minutes of the 17 September 1997 meeting included the account of a discussion initiated by Concordia Student Union (CSU) President Rebecca Aldworth on the subject of a proposed space swap involving the CSU and the Music Department. Following some dialogue between Ms. Aldworth and Mr. Emond, Vice-Rector, Services, Mr. Groome asked that progress be reported to the Board in October.

The Chairman invited Mr. Emond and Ms. Aldworth to speak. Mr. Emond said that before moving sound boxes into the Campus Centre, he had met with student groups and the Interim Dean of Students, Mr. Roger Côté. During the meeting, verbal agreement was reached on two conditions. Mr. Emond felt that, in the students' subsequent proposal to consign the agreement to writing, they had overstated the scope of the original verbal agreement. Ms. Aldworth told the Board she disagreed with Mr. Emond's assessment of the document.

There was further discussion. Mr. Groome asked Dr. Lowy to convene a meeting of the parties involved, to resolve the matter.

Mrs. Vineberg, Vice-Chairwoman of the Board and Chair of the Task Force to Revitalize the Loyola Campus, said students' needs were paramount among the Task Force's considerations. She added that Vice-Rector Emond, as a Task Force member, had emphasized that the students' concerns should be respected.

3. Approval of Concordia University's Financial Statements for the year ended on 31 May 1997

The Chairman of the Audit Committee, Mr. Benedetti, reported that external auditors *Samson, Bélair, Deloitte Touche* had reported no items of concern or dispute. He said improvement in the University's financial controls had been noted.

There were no questions.

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Benedetti, Ellen), it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R97-60 *THAT, on the recommendation of the Audit Committee, the Report and Financial Statements for the fiscal year ended 31 May 1997, prepared by Concordia's external auditors Samson, Bélair, Deloitte Touche, and as outlined in Document BG-97-8-D58, be approved; and*

THAT any two members of the Board of Governors be designated to sign the Financial Statements on behalf of the University.

4. Approval of the Rapport financier annuel for the year ended on 31 May 1997

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Benedetti, Pelland), it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R97-61 *THAT, on the recommendation of the Audit Committee, the "Rapport financier annuel" of Concordia University for the fiscal year ended 31 May 1997, as summarized in Document BG-97-8-D59, be approved;*

THAT the Chairman of the Board of Governors, Mr. Reginald K. Groome, and the Rector and Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Frederick Lowy, be designated to sign the "Rapport financier annuel" on behalf of the University; and

THAT the University be authorized to submit the said "Rapport" to the Ministry of Education of Québec.

5. Approval of the État du Traitement (Statement of Salaries) of Concordia's senior administrators

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Benedetti, Pelland), it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R97-62 *THAT, on the recommendation of the Audit Committee, the État du Traitement (Statement of Salaries) set out in Document BG-97-8-D60 be approved for submission to the Ministry of Education of Québec.*

6. Appointment of Concordia's external auditors for the fiscal year beginning on 1 June 1997 and ending on 31 May 1998

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Benedetti, Pelland), it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R97-63 *THAT, on the recommendation of the Audit Committee, Samson, Bélair, Deloitte Touche be reappointed as the University's external auditors for the fiscal year ending on 31 May 1998.*

7. Approval of a tuition fee increase to be charged, in 1998-99, to undergraduate international students in the Faculty of Commerce and Administration

Dr. Kryzanowski read the motion. Another faculty member asked how students registered in government-financed and self-financed programs are distinguished; if it was possible the government could claim revenues from the self-financed streams; and if the proposal had implications for other Faculties. Provost and Vice-Rector, Research, Jack Lightstone answered that a specific three-digit code is designated by the government to identify students in self-financed programs. He said also that the University's entitlement to revenues from these students had been affirmed in writing by the government.

Regarding the third question, Dr. Kryzanowski replied that the development implied other Faculties could also generate revenue by similar means.

Dr. Lightstone explained that the Deans of the Faculties of Arts and Science and of Commerce and Administration were working together to set up a suitable accounting system. Dr. Lowy noted that self-financing increased our competitiveness in the recruitment of international students because Concordia could undercut the government's tuition fees and still earn a profit.

The Rector explained that the precedent for self-financing streams was first set at Concordia with establishment of the Executive Masters' of Business Administration (EMBA) and the Aviation MBA programs. The President of the Commerce and Administration Students' Association, Mr. Nizzola, pointed out that neither of those programs was revenue-generating in 1996-97, and expressed concern that fees might be increased for that reason. Dr. Kryzanowski responded that the general undergraduate programs being proposed for "privatization" are relatively low-cost and would have no difficulty generating profits.

Another student pointed out that increasing fees removes education to the exclusive domain of the privileged; the United Nations had declared education a right. Other Board members affirmed the belief that, in a perfect world, education would be accessible to everyone, but noted that Concordia's tuition fees would still be lower than our competitors'.

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Kryzanowski, Benedetti), it was CARRIED with two opposed (Aldworth, Nizzola):

R97-64 *WHEREAS the Board of Governors, in November 1996, approved the creation of a self-financing stream for international undergraduate students of the Commerce and Administration Faculty, in the context of the Faculty's revenue-generating objectives; and*

WHEREAS the Faculty elaborated a plan to increase enrolment of international students which, as set out in "A Proposal for Recruitment of International Students",

projected instituting higher fees for such students;

BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the tuition fees for international students registering in the Bachelor of Commerce and the Bachelor of Administration programs be increased from \$271.00 per credit to \$333.33 per credit, starting with registration for the September 1998 term.

8. Progress report from the Advisory Search Committee for a Director of University Libraries

Committee Chairman Jack Lightstone reported that a meeting was planned for the consideration of applications received, and to schedule interviews with selected candidates.

9. Progress report on the Capital Campaign

In the absence of Campaign Chairman Ron Corey, Executive Vice-Chairman Donat Taddeo reported. Dr. Taddeo strongly urged Governors to attend the official launch of the Campaign on Wednesday, 29 October 1997, in the Concert Hall on the Loyola Campus. On that occasion, the amount pledged to date would be announced. Dr. Taddeo pointed out that the Concert Hall is a tangible result of the Capital Campaign of the 1980s.

Mr. Groome added that another instalment of the donation from the Max Stern Estate had just been received.

10. Reports of the Standing Committees

10.1 Report of the Benefits and Pension Committees

With regard to the meetings of 8 October 1997, Chairman Ronald Lawless said there was nothing to report.

10.2 Budget Committee

Brian Neysmith, Chair of the Budget Committee, reported on the meeting of 7 October 1997 when the current year's budget was considered. An operating surplus of \$1.6 million was projected and, therefore, the accumulated deficit was not expected to increase. Despite massive reductions in the annual operating budgets (to \$111 million in 1997-98 from \$140 million in 1992-93), Concordia was still closing each year with a surplus; this, Mr. Neysmith attributed to the success of the various retirement incentive plans.

Mr. Neysmith said that cuts of \$8 to \$10 million were expected for 1998-99. He could not predict how the University would weather these cuts, as most departments had already been materially reduced and the pension surplus was almost exhausted.

11. Report of the Rector

Dr. Lowy announced that the September Concordia Shuffle had raised \$74,411 for student scholarships; of this amount, \$44,000 was raised by Governors Alain Benedetti, Hazel Mah, Richard Renaud, Humberto Santos, Lillian Vineberg and Jonathan Wener.

The Rector told Governors that Concordia was exploring the potential to promote positive linkages with Israeli and Palestinian universities. There was a strong feeling that a Canadian university could play a useful role in developing such linkages and, Dr. Lowy said, he was proud that Concordia had an opportunity to contribute to the process. Dr. Balbir Sahni, Director of Concordia's Centre for International Academic Cooperation, represents Concordia in this endeavour.

12. Reports of the Vice-Rectors

- 12.1 Provost and Vice-Rector, Research, Jack Lightstone reported that a special meeting of Senate was scheduled for Friday, 17 October, for the consideration of a comprehensive package of academic planning recommendations from the Faculties.

- 12.2 Vice-Rector, Services, Charles Emond reported that, with enrolments down about 0.4%, Concordia had fared better than other Montreal universities. Program enrolments showed the largest decline among part-time graduate students whose numbers had fallen as much as 0.7%. Mr. Emond said the CQI enrolment management project was about to begin the first of several stages.

Regarding the merger of the audio-visual and computing services departments, Mr. Emond noted there had been substantial resistance to the proposed changes. Nevertheless, he said he was optimistic their amalgamation into a new Department of Instructional and Informational Technology could be reported in the coming months.

- 12.3 Prof. Danis, Vice-Rector, Institutional Relations, told the Board that an Early Retirement Incentive Plan (ERIP) was being offered to staff aged 53 years with a one-month window for response, from 5 November to 5 December 1997. Faculty aged 57 years were being offered a retirement incentive; their window was to open from 22 October to 28 November 1997. Eight to twelve people in each category were expected to accept the offer, he said.

If there was still money available, Prof. Danis said, additional packages would be offered to younger employees.

- 12.4 Chief Financial Officer Larry English waived his report.

14. Any other business

A Governor, concerned about negative publicity, asked for an explanation of the events which reportedly occurred at Reggie's Pub during the night of Sunday, 12 October 1997. Mr. Emond answered that the club, which is managed by CUSACORP Inc., had been rented to an outside group for the evening. There was an altercation at the Pub and Concordia's Security staff called the police. Mr. Emond said the report of gunshots was not substantiated and apparently no one was hurt.

Mr. Emond explained that unless strict standards are established for bookings of University premises, such things may happen occasionally when facilities are leased -- irrespective of whether the space is controlled by students or conference services.

15. Date of next meeting

Mr. Groome announced that the next meeting of the Board will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, 19 November 1997, in Room L-AD 308, on the Loyola Campus. At 6:30 p.m., a short ceremony will be held to honour Governors Emeriti Henry Habib and Brian

Aune, and the Board's immediate past-Vice-Chairwoman Sister Eileen McIlwaine. Dinner will be served at 7:00 p.m.

16. Adjournment

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 9:05 a.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Bérengère Gaudet". The script is cursive and elegant, with the first name and last name clearly distinguishable.

Submitted by Me Bérengère Gaudet, Secretary of the Board of Governors, for approval by the Board at its meeting of 19 November 1997